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DRAFT

CONGLETON

TOUR OF BRITAIN

CYCLING LEGACY



Congleton Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy Committee
December 2016

Congleton Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy Committee

Cllr Suzie Akers Smith	- Committee Chair, Congleton Town Council
Cllr David Brown	- Cheshire East Representative
Peter Hall	- Sustrans & Congleton Cycling Campaign
Paul Emms	- Sustrans & Congleton Cycling Campaign
Alec Scaresbrook	- Congleton Cycling Campaign



Foreword

Since the success of the Tour of Britain in Cheshire East, there is, without doubt, a desire to build upon this success. The ideas and suggestions in this document are ways that we can help to deliver change to our community, to make cycling and walking safer and remove the barriers to participation, make them the choice for short journeys and offer a truly spectacular leisure facility. Leader of Cheshire East Council Cllr Rachel Bailey called Congleton '*The heart of cycling in Cheshire East*'.

We want to build on the success of the Tour of Britain and make Congleton not only a cycling town, but a Cycling Hub and a true destination for cyclists.



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Congleton Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy

With the rise in obesity and unhealthy lifestyles, the importance of health, fitness and wellbeing has never been greater. It is a fact that the current generation has a shorter life expectancy than their parents. My own philosophy is we are a long time 'old' (or senior), therefore the more we encourage people to look after themselves in terms of health and fitness the better quality of life we will have both physically and mentally, for the whole of our lives and to inspire future generations.

We have a fantastic opportunity to facilitate a more healthy lifestyle amongst our community. Cycling is currently riding the crest of a wave in terms of participation as well as Olympic success at national level. Central government sees the benefit to our nation in terms of fighting obesity, improving lifestyles and reducing costs to employers and public services. Not only this but also improving our environment in terms of the air we breathe and the realm in which we live and work. Cycling and walking have been identified as the easiest and least challenging physical activities that citizens can take up, with the greatest returns, because of these facts they attract an inordinate amount of funding.

We, as part of the Congleton Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy Committee would like to present to you why investment in cycling and walking not only here in Congleton but across Cheshire East, will help our community improve their health and fitness levels but will also enjoy a longer, higher quality life.

We will demonstrate how truly inclusive these activities can be, how we plan to reduce or remove the safety concerns and how we can deliver a truly sustainable model to capture the interest from toddlers through to seniors making it easy to choose the healthy option for sport, leisure or transport.

There needs to be a seismic change in attitude to cycling, walking, health and fitness, indeed any type of exercise. The huge success of the ToB has inspired people to start cycling, especially the younger members of our community. We need to capitalise on this enthusiasm and deliver the facilities which will not only nurture this seed, but allow it to thrive and grow and spread amongst our community. Improving infrastructure for cycling and walking will make taking exercise more attractive and enjoyable and be able to fit into the daily lives of our residents.

Providing safe, segregated cycling and walking routes linking the town and the residential areas, coupled with a fantastic leisure facility will make exercise part of a daily routine and a family choice for leisure time with an astounding opportunity for a ground breaking physical education offering.

Let us explain our ideas, suggestions and ambitions for a Tour of Britain Cycling Legacy for Congleton.

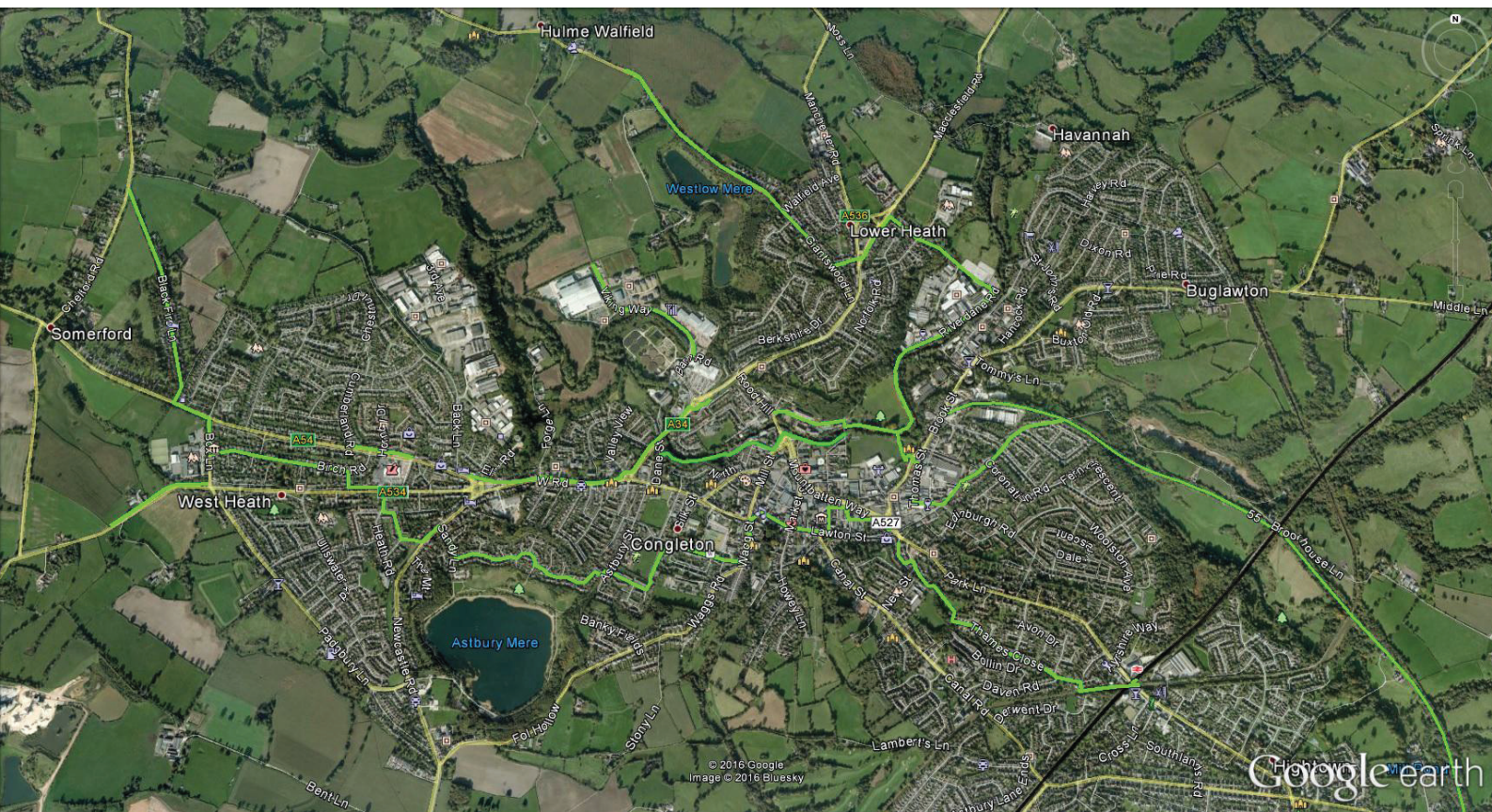
CLlr Suzie Akers Smith
Committee Chair
Congleton Town Council

Congleton ToB Legacy Ideas

1. The current network showing missing links
2. Suggestions for filling in the missing links
3. Congleton Beartown Cycle Routes
4. Congleton Circumnavigation
5. Congleton cycling and walking country park leisure facility



1. The current Congleton cycling network showing missing links and gaps



1. Green route – The current Congleton cycling network provision showing missing links and gaps making the network disjointed and unsafe in crucial road crossing places.

2. Suggestions for filling in the missing links and gaps throughout Congleton



The Congleton cycling network provision including missing links and gaps which would make the network cohesive, joined up and safer cycling routes.

3. Congleton Beartown Cycle Routes



Kung Fu Panda Bear Route



Fozzie Bear Route



Honey Bear Route



Rupert Bear Route



Yogi Bear Route



Kodiak Grizzly Bear Route



Baloo Bear Route

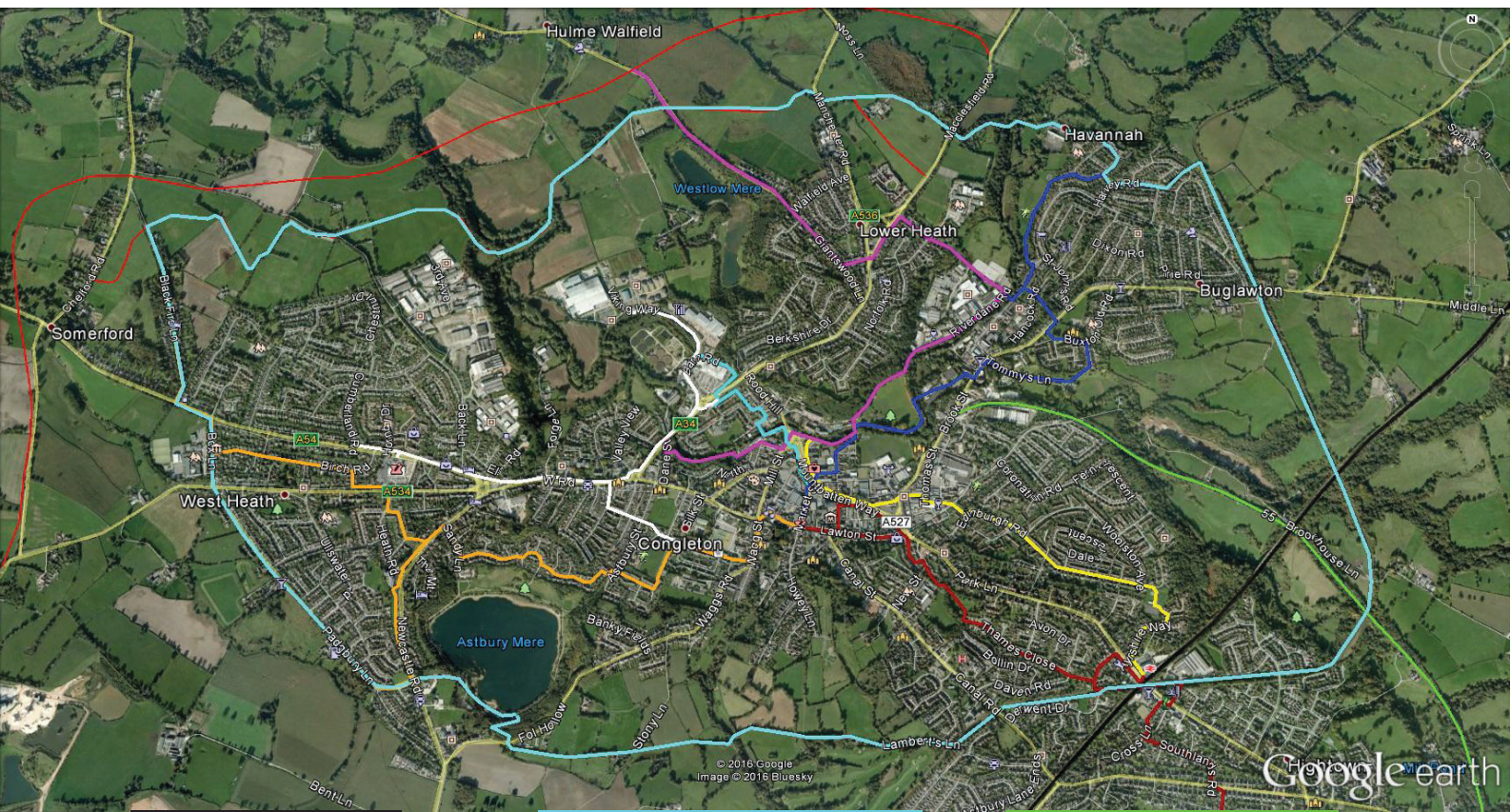


Polar Bear Route



Paddington Bear Route

4. Congleton Circumnavigation



Rupert Bear Route – Retail Park

Honey Bear Route – West Heath

Polar Bear Route – Congleton Circumnavigation

Fozzie Bear Route – Lower Heath

Baloo Bear Route – Town Centre

Yogi Bear Route – Biddulph Valley

Paddington Bear Route – Railway Station

Kodiak Grizzly Bear Route – Buglawton

5. Congleton Cycling and Walking Country Park

Country Park for Cycling & Walking

A country park with cycling and walking facilities to encourage as many local residents to cycle or walk more in a safe environment.

All Inclusive

All inclusive community use with lots of different disciplines and activities, anybody can partake in, even those of us who don't particularly like exercise. Easy to do.

A Safe Cycling & Walking Environment

A closed road circuit is completely safe and suitable for many types of activities such as time trials, road racing, adaptive cycling, and can host national and possibly international events.

Improve Health and Well Being

By making exercise simple and easy, and exciting, more people will be attracted to do it, and ultimately improve their own fitness levels and help keep their weight under control.

Integrated land development

Low maintenance and ecologically friendly development

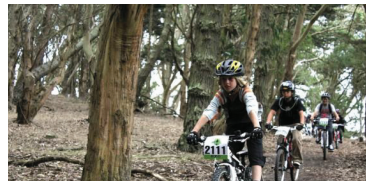
5. Congleton Cycling and Walking Country Park cont'd...



Closed Road Cycle Circuit



Toddlers & Kiddies circuit



Mountain Biking Trails



BMX Pump Track



BMX Racing for teens



Girls and Boys



Bikeability and School PE



BMX Racing for kids



Men and Women



Seniors



Junior & Teens



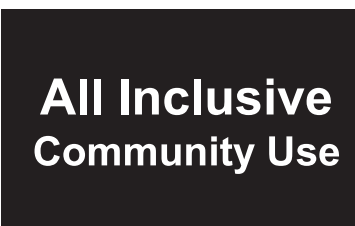
Families



Nordic Rollerblading



Adaptive Cycling



Disability Events ¹⁰

Congleton Cycling Network Wish List

Is to enable people, especially children to cycle safely and independently in and around Congleton for everyday journeys and between all Congleton schools.

Congleton Cycling and Walking – PROBLEM

Current provision is not cohesive, joined up or signed effectively. Access for wheelchair users is incredibly difficult and because the network isn't joined up the cycling routes are deemed as unsafe. Improving the current network would bring huge cycling benefits not only to wheelchair users, to parents with buggies, wheelchairs and mobility scooters and walkers.

Priority 1

Park Lane Traffic Lights

Current problems for cyclists are the junction is difficult to navigate, involves having to ride on the pavement or it is necessary to undertake a dangerous manoeuvre in the middle of the road.

Improving this junction achieves one of the biggest benefit to cyclists. It would link up multiple origins and destinations such as the town centre to the railway station and Mossley, Bromley Farm to Daven School and link up other cycles routes going west.

Priority 2

Mountbatten Way and Brook Street

The pavements along Mountbatten Way meet minimum widths required to accommodate both pedestrians and cyclist.

With the installation of shared use signage along the north side of Mountbatten Way (east bound, least interrupted by junctions) and west side (north bound) because it is wider. Improving this whole section of Moutbatten Way would allow safe cycling along the length of this major road.



Priority 3

From Fol Hollow along Lamberts Lane to the canal along the tow path from Lamberts Lane to Tall Ash Farm

There is poor access for all wheeled users along tow path, it is uneven, muddy in lots of places and stony in others.

The path needs a safe surface to ride cycle and walk along and to help form part of a circumnavigation cycling/walking route around Congleton.

Congleton Cycle Network Map Priority Wish List

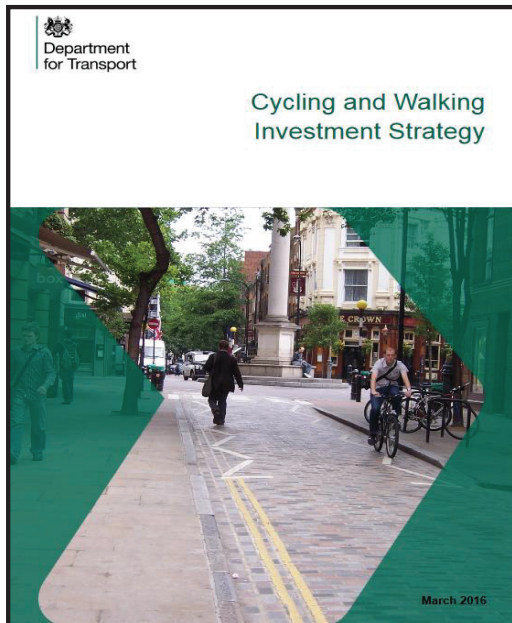


WHAT'S NEXT?

Garner resident support through public consultation.

Funding and grant availability British Cycling, Sport England.

Plan cycling infrastructure policies to be included in the Neighbourhood Plan.



Sport England to invest £88m in grassroots sport, with cycling biggest winner

© 16 December 2016 | Olympics



Cycling will receive more than £17m in grassroots funding


Sport England will invest £88m in grassroots sport and a further £3m to help sports bid for major events over the next four years.

Of the 26 governing bodies to benefit, cycling is set for the biggest award of more than £17m.

Sport England said the announcement shows its "ongoing commitment to supporting those who have a close affinity with sport".

The investments and new funding opportunities are designed to build on the 15 million people who regularly play sport in the country, which Sport England calls its "core market".

Congleton Neighbourhood Plan



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October 2016
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Website links:

www.congleton-tc.co.uk
www.cheshireeast.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-cycling-and-walking-investment-strategy

www.sustrans.org.uk
www.congletoncycling.co.uk
www.tourofbritain.co.uk

www.britishcycling.org.uk
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